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U. S. Department of Agriculture

THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF FOREST DESTRUCTION

“A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth; the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.”—Joel 2:3.

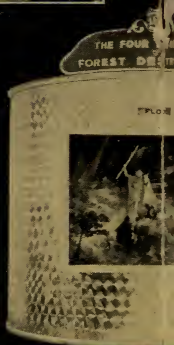
The Four Horsemen of Forest Destruction exhibit is the idea of Assistant Regional Forester Wallace I. Hutchinson, California Region, U. S. Forest Service, and is based on the narrative of the “Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse”, found in the Book of Revelations 6:1–8. In the original Bible story, the Four Horsemen were Conquest, Slaughter, Famine, and Death. These have been changed in the Forest Destruction exhibit to Four Horsemen symbolizing Fire, Flood, Drought, and Death. The modeling and mechanical work of the exhibit was done by Janness Richardson, and the background paintings by Grace M. Betts.



THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF F



FIRE
The Red Enemy



DROUGHT
The Aftermath

F FOREST DESTRUCTION



FLOOD
The Destroyer



DEATH
The Reaper

JUST NINETY SECONDS

While you have been looking at the Four Horsemen of Forest Destruction, 150 acres of valuable timber and watershed cover have been destroyed by fire somewhere in the United States.

Minute after minute, day after day, this appalling pace keeps up—to the staggering annual total of 52,000,000 acres burned.

FIRE! Merciless, relentless—leaping, swirling through the forest. Billowing smoke; roaring, crackling flames sweeping onward, skyward.

The venomous hiss of burning pine and fir; the thunderous crash of forest giants; hoarse shouts of desperate and exhausted fire fighters; the pattering paw and hoof of wild life fleeing from destruction.

A living, surging wave of vivid fire—and in its wake, gray ash and smoldering logs, lifeless trees and desolation.

That is what is happening every minute in your forests, your watersheds, your wild life sanctuaries, and your recreation grounds.

Over 90 percent of this terrible loss can be avoided—most of it is caused by human carelessness and thoughtlessness.

Will YOU help reduce this needless destruction and waste by being careful with burning matches, tobacco, and camp fires when in the forest?

**“A little fire is quickly trodden out;
Which, being suffer'd, rivers cannot quench.”**